

Meeting –December 6, 2021 at 5.30pm

Room –Begin Tower, 22nd Floor, Board Room

Present:

Liam Hunter	President	Voting Member
Dawson Thomas	Vice President	Voting Member
Oluwatomisin Aroge	Director	Voting Member
Jasmin Bhatti	Director	Voting Member
Arek Gellatly	Director	Voting Member
Hana Hossain	Director	Voting Member
Macleon Jarvis	Director	Voting Member
Truc Thanh	Director	Voting Member
Jaira Velasco	Director	Voting Member
Marc Stromme	Saitsa Executive Director	Non-Voting
Rachel Paris	Saitsa Director, Student Services	Non-Voting
Rio Valencerina	Saitsa Manager, Governance & Advocacy	Non-Voting
Sunra Sunra	Saitsa Coordinator, Governance & Advocacy	Non-Voting

Regrets:

Oluwatomisin Aroge	Director	Voting Member
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Guests:

Tracey Zehl	External Auditor, Grant Thornton LLP
Andrew MacLeod	External Auditor, Grant Thornton LLP
Cara Hughes	External Auditor, Grant Thornton LLP
Noah McDonald	Saitsa Controller

Agenda Items:

1.0 Call to Order:

L. Hunter called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

2.0 Acknowledgement of Traditional Indigenous Territories:

M. Jarvis gave the acknowledgement of Traditional Indigenous Territories.

3.0 Conflict of Interest Check:

L. Hunter reminded the Board to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest they may have. A Conflict of Interest is defined as any situation in which a Director may benefit or appear to benefit from business of the Board.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda:

Motion:

L. Hunter set a motion to approve the Agenda.

**H. Hossain/M. Jarvis
Motion Carries**



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The agenda was approved by general consent.

5.0 Adoption of Minutes:

5.1 Regular Meeting of the Board, November 8, 2021

A. Gellatly/M. Jarvis

Motion:

To approve the minutes of the November 8th meeting, 2021 as circulated.

**A. Gellatly/J. Velasco
Motion Carries**

The motion was approved by general consent.

6.0 In-Camera: Saitsa Annual Audit Results:

Motion:

To move In-Camera with M. Stromme, N. Little, R. Paris, Neil Little and R. Valencerina

**A. Gellatly/J. Velasco
Motion Carries**

The motion was approved by general consent.

The meeting moved In-Camera at 5.36 p.m.

Motion: To move Out of Camera

**A. Gellatly/J. Velasco
Motion Carries**

The In-camera session ended at 7.00 p.m.

Motion:

To accept the audited financial statements for Saitsa's 2021 – 2022 fiscal year.

**J. Bhatti/M. Jarvis
7-0-0
Motion Carries**

Motion:

To approve Grant Thornton as the auditors for Saitsa's 2021 – 2022 fiscal year.

J. Bhatti/M. Jarvis



Recess by general consent at 7.05 p.m. for 15 minutes.

7.0 Presidents Reports:

7.1 President

The President's report is as submitted.

A. Gellatly asked the President about his meeting with the ICT students and their concerns. President deliberated about director O. Aroge's absence and that he has had to take over her duties. L. Hunter also mentioned that students are offered in-person or Hybrid model only and a survey was sent out which suggests that students want online only option– 80% of them (who responded).

R. Paris the asked L. Hunter if students were informed about this change by SAIT before they reinstated it?

L. Hunter responded by saying, no such message was delivered to students via SAIT.

J. Bhatti asked when L. Hunter and D. Thomas are to meet with Whitney and whether it was together or one on one. L. Hunter responded by saying, they have met her twice together in the past but this time as it happened, they both met her individually. She is friendly and a good ally to have and work together, L. Hunter added.

J. Bhatti asked about some information regarding the transparency with the Board of Governors,

L. Hunter responded by saying, he can't share any further information.

J. Bhatti then asked about the U-pass,

L. Hunter explained that he has a meeting with counselor Wuhan, he also stated that this year meetings have gone very well as oppose to last couple of years and that Saitsa is in a powerful position with the counsels, they are aware of what Saitsa is demanding of them and a long relationship and has paid dividends. He also said, "Counselor Wuhan offered to get us together with the director of Calgary transit and set up a meeting with us himself and if we want anyone else. With so many counsellors on our side it's going to be hard for anyone to ignore us." L. Hunter seemed positive that we will be able to bring about change this time. Also suggested we ask other student associations/peers to come together with us. He mentioned, "St. MarySu not being on board and wishing to not work along with anyone which is not going to affect us. We have done incredible work and I am very happy and just want to close the deal."

7.2 Vice-President

The Vice-President's report is as submitted.

R. Paris asked about the Board of Governors support group and how is it going.



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D. Thomas said it's going well; it is new for him and that he wanted to join for experience and interaction with other board members on other boards. He said more people are joining in as they started as 4 but now are up to 12 and that he appreciates the inflow of more members.

M. Jarvis asked then about the results from the Special Board Huddle meeting.

D. Thomas responded saying that they realized that some of the BODs are not available for Monday, but he didn't see a point in changing the time for the Huddle just for a couple of days as we are at the end of the semester and that they will think about changing the day and time for the huddle now for the next semester. Also, as a unanimous decision now BOD meetings shall only be online and socials only in person, till further changes.

Any expectation for winter semester, she asked.

L. Hunter responded saying, when we start winter semester expectations to be set in then, which shall be discussed in the next BOD meeting on the second Monday of January 2022.

8.0 Individual Reports:

8.1 Open Report Discussion

Motion:

Liam Hunter highlighted, O. Aroge's absence and that she did not submit a report. L. Hunter then opened the floor for questions & discussion.

J. Bhatti asked everyone if they had a chance to meet with the Dean of their school or the leadership.

H. Hossain mentioned having met with an Engagement Manager of their school, Mr. James Warner.

L. Hunter asked H. Hossain about the creation of a new course.

H. Hossain explained that SAIT has had a partnership with LGBTQ Canada to understand terminology and history, but they had to cancel the course for now and are working on coming up with a similar more financially viable course for everyone.

L. Hunter requested the BOD to submit their reports as a PDF documents for future meetings

A. Gellatly then asked M. Jarvis about the Satellite Campus tour and if she should share any information and update about the linkage data regarding the same.

She said, she helped the Saitsa staff while delivering the distress kits during the tour. Also, she had been informed that no data shall be available before January 2nd week, 2022.

J. Bhatti then asked about confidential data shared in her reports.



9.0 Business Items:

9.1 Financial Conditions and Activities Review

L. Hunter asked if there is any further discussion required about the audit as he found the audit was good.

9.2 Saitsa Membership Fee

Motion:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approves an increase of 1.93% to the Saitsa membership fee, to \$171 per semester effective July 1, 2022.

**A. Gellatly/T. Than
Motion Carries**

L. Hunter stated that the intended goal is to increase the Saitsa membership fee in keeping with inflation.

J. Bhatti asked if Saitsa fee shall affect the operational breakdown, to which M. Stromme clarified saying that the breakdown is always to give the BOD an idea.

J. Bhatti then asked if it would help the BOD with operations. M. Stromme clarified with a rough estimation of the number of students, some \$32000 more might be added to the operations with this increase

R. Paris clarified saying, “Not increased in fact it has been decreased once before.”

L. Hunter said we don't want to shock students and do not want to draw it in but keep it conducive for the students and help the next BOD to carry it.

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9.3 Saitsa Building Fee

M. Jarvis advocated for keeping it frozen as given the pandemic situations, ambiguity is still in the air.

A. Gellatly & L. Hunter expressed their views saying, that plenty of work is now available for students and because of the job surplus, especially part time, even though there is still uncertainty, we are required to charge fee and get the building built as it's in our referendum and that students have mandated it for us. Hence, we should start asking for this fee.



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M. Stromme clarified it to the BOD that they can't restate it next semester but next academic year, in July.

J. Bhatti seconded A. Gellatly and L. Hunter. This was then made into a motion.

Motion:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approves the reinstatement of the Saitsa Restricted Building Fee for the 2022-2023 Academic Year.

**6-1-0
Motion Carries**

9.4 Updated Elections Policies and Procedures

Motion:

To approve the amended Elections Policies and Procedures, as presented.

A. Gellatly/M. Jarvis

7-0-0

Motion Carries

R. Valencerina then informed everyone that it is under section 3.1 of the documents that one can only run for one position.

J. Bhatti then asked what the affirmation process is and why is it not part of the Board PnP.

R. Valencerina responded by saying it is not in the PnP because affirmation is not part of PnP by laws

She then asked if it would be a part of the elections, to which he responded saying, that would be an unlikely event.

A. Gellatly then asked, what is the reason for general respect slates not being permitted and if it is because of conflict of interest. R. Valencerina clarified saying, it is to maintain fairness that they are not permitted.

ACTION ITEM: The Board of Directors tasks M. Stromme to begin the process of selecting and hiring the members of the Election Oversight Panel, to be approved by the Board at the February meeting of the Board.

10.0 Information/Discussion:



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10.1 The Weal

M. Stromme informed the BOD that he went to The Dean of journalism for more info, journalism is moving to the School of business starting January 2022. SAIT wants Saitsa to sell or donate the rights to the name of the Emery Weal

L. Hunter asked M. Stromme if Saitsa Liam can we benefit out of this at all?
Stromme stressed that SAIT just wants to use the name.

10.2 Saitsa Annual General Meeting

R. Valencerina informed the BOD that the AGM is to be held on the 15thFebruary 2022 at Odyssey.

10.3 Upcoming Saitsa Events

Saitsa events for the month of December were presented by S. Sunra.

10.4 ED Report

The ED's report is as presented. In-Camera session is needed to answer any questions.

M. Jarvis asked M. Stromme if the BOD has any updates from him.

R. Paris and J. Bhatti complemented M. Stromme for coming in and streamlining the finances of Saitsa and the BOD for doing a good job.

10.5 In-Camera

Motion:

To move In-Camera without staff at 8:35 p.m.

**L. Hunter/A. Gellatly
Motion Carries**

H. Hossain left at 8:59 p.m.

Motion:

To move Ex-Camera 9:02 p.m.

**A. Gellatly/M. Jarvis
Motion Carries**

11.0 Questions/Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by general consent at 9:04 p.m.